

A B S T R A C T

PARCEL-FRANKING APPARATUS AND A METHOD OF IMPLEMENTING
SUCH APPARATUS

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Parcel-franking apparatus which comprises: a plurality of lockers (2) provided with respective doors (3); a management unit (11); locks (4) each adapted to lock a respective door and under individual control individually; door position detectors (5) adapted to inform the management unit when the corresponding doors are closed; a weight sensor (9a, 9b) adapted to transmit to the management unit an indication of the weight of a parcel placed in a locker; and data input means (14).

10 The management unit (11) is adapted to act, when a position detector (5) of a door of a locker detects that the door is closed: to compute a franking price for franking a parcel placed in this determined locker on the basis of the data delivered and of the indication of the 20 weight of the parcel;

- to cause the door of said locker to be locked; and
- to keep the door of said locker locked until a parcel retrieval code is recognized.

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35 Translation of the title and the abstract as published by the PCT Authorities, possibly after making changes, ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.